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"Clay Shaw of the CIA"

[Pravda, 7 March 1967 published an article by V. Yermakov titled "As above," which was datelined Rome, 6 March 1967. A translation of the article follows.]

The US Central Intelligence Agency made use of the services of Clay Shaw for their own interests in Italy. The District Attorney of New Orleans is accusing him of participation in the conspiracy which resulted in the assassination of President Kennedy. Newspapers in Rome recounted this in materials carried on the front pages.

Clay Shaw spent some years in the Italian capital, as one of the leaders of the so-called "World-Wide Trade Center," which was located in a very fashionable district of Rome. This "Center" was least of all concerned with trade operations and the development of commercial ties. Its purpose was something else entirely. It specialized, in the words of the newspaper, in financing "bigoted anti-Communist groups." Clay Shaw and the US agent Major Blumenfeld, who appears now in the capacity of a businessman from Canada, entered into secret relations with political circles in Rome, among deputies of the Christian-Democratic, Social-Democratic, and Neofascist parties. They also deeply penetrated the business world of Italy. Shaw was given the task of establishing contacts with the extreme rightist groups in Rome, including the representatives of the neofascist organizations.

"Such were the directives given by the CIA," write the newspapers. The "Center" established especially close relations with Signor-Giuseppe Guidotti, the president of one of the largest fascist organizations; Prince Gutierrez di Spadafora, a relative of the Hitlerist banker von Schacht; etc.

It seemed obvious that the "World-Wide Trade Center" was occupied with things much bigger than mere commercial transactions, Unita emphasized in connection with this. The Italian press notes that the "Center" in Rome was only a branch of the Swiss organization "Permidex," which the newspapers in Switzerland openly accused of "criminal operations" and demanded a court examination of its activities. Specifically, "Permidex" financed OAS (Secret Army Organization) groups in France. An inquiry made of Swiss government deputies about this activity was left without an answer. However, it is completely obvious, it was noted in Rome that both "Permidex" and its branch in Italy were no more than screens,